

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 30-81 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 6, 9, 55, 64, and 73 are in independent form. Claims 1-9 and 30-81 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any fees due in connection with this response.

The Office Action objected to claims 31 and 78 due to certain typographical errors. Appropriate correction has been made.

The Office Action rejected claims 9, 34-36, 49-54, 73-77, and 79-81 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Office Action suggested changing the term "medium" to "storage device." The suggested amendment has been made.

The Office Action rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 as being indefinite due to certain antecedent basis errors. Appropriate correction has been made.

The Office Action also rejected all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) based on *Budzik* ("User Interactions with Everyday Applications as Context for Just-in-time Information Access"). Each of the independent claims is hereby amended to include, inter alia, "a first weight" and "a second weight." Each of these weights has a "different" "magnitude" that is "based on" a "statistical value indicative of a [respective] number of occurrences of the stylistic attribute." No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

As claimed, the present invention includes an adaptive weighting method. For example, the active computer task may be a web page, and the statistical value may be the percentage of bold words in that web page. If the web page includes a relatively low

percentage of bold words (e.g., 1%), bold words may be given a relatively high weight. However, if the web page includes a relatively high percentage of bold words (e.g., 25%), bold words may be given a relatively low weight. In another example, the active computer task may be a thread of email messages, and the statistical value may be the number of signature blocks in that email exchange (e.g., one signature block after each back and forth between several parties). If the email thread includes a relatively low number of signature blocks (e.g., 1), the words in the signature blocks may be given a relatively high weight. However, if the email thread includes a relatively high number of signature blocks (e.g., 10), the words in the signature blocks may be given a relatively low weight.

Budzik fails to teach the adaptive weight system currently claimed. *Budzik* teaches a fixed weighting system. In *Budzik*, the weight given to a term is simply doubled (a magnitude that is determined a priori) if the term is emphasized (e.g., bolded) regardless of how much of that type of emphasis is present in the active computer task (see line 9 of weighting algorithm pseudo code in Figure 4 and the second to the last paragraph of section 4.1, which states "If a term is emphasized, its preliminary weight is double the original preliminary weight.") In addition, *Budzik* does not teach the occurrence frequency of a field (e.g., the number of signature fields in an email thread) to determine an associated weighting magnitude for that field type.

Accordingly, all pending claims are condition for allowance, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

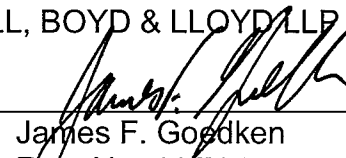
An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance, and in the absence of more pertinent art, such action is courteously

solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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